REMARKS

Consideration and allowance of the above-identified application is respectfully requested. Claims 1-44 are pending in the application.

Claims 3-6, 9, 12-13, 17, 20-23, 26, and 38-44 have been amended to removed multiple dependencies and to conform to U.S. style. No claims have been amended to overcome prior art. Thus, the full doctrine of equivalents applies to all claim elements.

Entry of this Preliminary Amendment and a favorable action on the merits are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcy M. Hoefling

Reg. No. 33,955

Attorney for Applicant

Telephone:

(225) 388-7210

Facsimile:

(225) 388-7239